

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 5-8, and 10-16 as follows.

1. (Original) A communications system comprising:

at least one user equipment;

at least one resource node arranged to manage resource for communication with said at least one user equipment;

at least one managing node for managing traffic flow, wherein said at least one resource node and said at least one managing node are arranged so that information is passed between at least one resource node and at least one managing node, said at least one managing node selecting at least one parameter for a new traffic flow based on said information.

2. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one resource node and at least one managing node are arranged to negotiate in order to select the at least one parameter.

3. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein said information comprises negotiation information and said negotiation information is determined by at least one resource node.

4. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said negotiation information comprises at least one of the following: type of traffic, the bit rate of the traffic and the cost.

5. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3 ~~or~~ 4, wherein said negotiation information is determined for a plurality of different traffic handling classes.

6. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said parameter is at least one of the following: traffic handling class, cost, and target bit rate

7. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein an access charge for the user equipment is dependent on the location of the user equipment in said system and/or time.

8. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one resource node comprises an access node with which said user equipment is arranged to communicate.

9. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 8, wherein at least one access node is a base station or radio network controller.

10. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said at least one managing node is located at an edge of a network.

11. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said at least one managing node comprises an GGSN.

12. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said resource node is an access node.

13. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein in means are provided for guiding an actual flow rate to a target flow rate.

14. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein means are provided for detecting a new flow.

15. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein means are provided for balancing load between available resources.

16. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein communication between the managing node and resource node is via a GPRS tunnelling protocol or a multi-protocol label switching protocol.

17. (Original) A communications method for use in a communications system comprising at least one user equipment, at least one resource node arranged to manage resource for communication with said at least one user equipment, at least one managing node for managing traffic flow,

said method comprising the steps of passing information passed between at least one resource node and at least one managing node, and selecting at least one parameter for a new traffic flow based on said information.

18. (Original) A resource node for use in a system comprising:  
at least one user equipment;  
at least one resource node, and at least one at least one managing node for managing traffic flow,

said resource node comprising means for managing resource for communication with said at least one user equipment, and means for passing information to said at least one managing node.

19. (Original) A managing node for use in a communications system comprising at least one user equipment, at least one resource node arranged to manage resource for communication with said at least one user equipment, and at least one managing node, said managing node comprising means for managing traffic flow, means for receiving information from at least one resource node, and means for selecting at least one parameter for a new traffic flow based on said information.